

REMARKS and ARGUMENTS

The present application was filed on September 23rd, 2003 with claims 1 - 21. By this amendment, claims 1 – 3 and 6 - 21 have been amended. New claims 22 - 24 have been added. Claims 4 and 5 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added via the new claims or the amendments. Reconsideration is requested.

New Claims

Claims 22 - 24 have been added to more completely claim the patentable subject matter of the invention. Consideration of claims 22 - 24 is earnestly sought.

Cancelled Claims

Claims 4 and 5 have been cancelled to place the application in form for allowance, and not for reasons related to patentability of these claims.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 – 21 were objected to because they included reference characters. Claims 1-3 and 6-21 have been amended to remove the reference characters and address this objection by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 11, 15 – 17, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *St. Amand*, et al. '158. Claim 1 has been amended to more completely claim the patentable subject matter of the present invention. Newly amended claim 1 sets forth a canister assembly for capturing and storing fuel vapors from a device, comprising, *inter alia*, a housing including a cartridge chamber, a housing chamber, and a cartridge. The cartridge chamber is fluidly connected to the housing chamber with the cartridge sealably assembled-within the cartridge chamber, and the cartridge is operable to capture and store at least a portion of the fuel vapors from the device.

Applicant respectfully argues that *St. Amand*, et al. fails to teach or suggest the invention as recited in newly amended claim 1 of the present invention. In contradistinction to the present invention, *St. Amand*, et al. does not teach or suggest a canister assembly for capturing and storing fuel vapors from a device comprising a housing including a cartridge chamber, a housing chamber, and a cartridge. Furthermore, there is no teaching or suggestion for the cartridge chamber fluidly connected to the housing chamber with the cartridge sealably assembled within the cartridge chamber. For this reason, applicants respectfully assert that newly amended claim 1 of the present invention is patentably distinguishable from *St. Amand*, et al., and request reconsideration of newly amended claim 1.

Claims 11 and 15 – 17 are ultimately dependent upon claim 1. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claims 11 and 15 – 17.

Applicant respectfully asserts that newly amended claim 19 is patentably distinguishable from *St. Amand*, et al., for the same reasons as set forth with respect to claim 1. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claim 19.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 2 – 10, 12-14, 18, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *St. Amand*, et al.

Claims 2 – 10 and 12-14 are ultimately dependent upon now allowable claim 1. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claims 2 – 10 and 12-14.

Applicant respectfully asserts that newly amended claim 18 is patentably distinguishable from *St. Amand*, et al., for the same reasons as set forth with respect to claim 1, as above. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claim 18.

Claims 20 and 21 are ultimately dependent upon now allowable claim 18. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claims 20 and 21.

Conclusion

For all of the above reasons, claims 1-3 and 6-24 are patentably distinguishable over the prior art cited thereagainst. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be beneficial, please contact the undersigned at the number listed. Please charge any necessary fees, including any extension of time, or any other fee deficiencies to Delphi Technologies, Inc., Deposit Account No. 50-0831.

Respectfully submitted,



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